

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully requests entry of the amendments and remarks submitted herein. Claim 23 is amended and claim 1 is canceled. Therefore, claims 6-11, 23 and 25 are currently pending.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection

In the Decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences ("the Board") received from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the above-referenced matter mailed on September 8, 2006, the Board rejected claims 1, 6-11 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grainger *et al.* Claim 1 has been cancelled.

The Board, however, reversed the rejection of claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Grainger *et al.* Claim 6-11 and 23 have been amended to depend either directly or indirectly from claim 25.

Therefore, Grainger *et al.* do not obviate the pending claims, and Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 6-11 and 23 be withdrawn.

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Dkt. 17023.010US1

Title: METHODS TO REDUCE THE SENSITIVITY OF ENDOTHELIALY-COMPROMISED VASCULAR SMOOTH MUSCLE

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representative at the below-listed telephone number if there are any questions regarding this Response or if prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3503.

Respectfully submitted,

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